



## Parent Teacher Organization

### Meeting Minutes

Thursday, January 5, 2023

9:30-11:30 a.m.

**Board Members Present:** Julia Halliday (President), Mr. York (principal), Lara Stout (lower grade teacher rep), Lisa Nielsen (upper grade teacher rep), Becca Bishop (secretary), Jessica Muelleck (communications), Patti Harrison (Jog-A-Thon), Susan McDougal (co-treasurer), Trina McCarthy (co-treasurer), Amy Bennion (room parents & art contest), Jen Preece (teacher support), Angie Haaga (Chinese), Amy Kalbes (Health and Safety), Others: **Via Zoom:** Shelly Beck (Spirit team), Sara Oswald (historian), Amber Elkins (jog-a-thon) **Other:** Amy Burton, Lisa Christensen, Katie Enniss

**Motion to Open:** Julia Halliday (open), Becca Bishop (second)

### Principal Report:

- Sickness is abundant in school and with teachers
  - FLU, RSV (calmed a little), and COVID
  - If you are sick, don't come!
  - Katie Enniss asked if we could put guidelines out of when to keep kids home?
- Imagine Math
  - Every student in the school has access to this (even if they don't use this in the classroom)
  - Use this 15 minutes a day
- Staffing is an issue
  - LUNCHROOM – volunteer to help in the lunchroom
    - Contact the lunchroom and see what days they need help
    - Table wiping
  - SWEEPERS
    - Promoted a teenager to night custodian
    - At least 14 to vacuum. Come work! About \$10/hr.
    - Preference to work every day – but not necessary
- Is there a rift between PTO and staff?
  - Teachers and school system are put in the position to fix all problems in society
    - Mental health
    - Poverty
    - DCFS and Abuse
    - Self-esteem
  - How do we help better?
    - Let small mistakes slide

- What is disruptive?
  - Anytime we disrupt the schedule, it is difficult
  - Field trips, assemblies, activities, etc.

### Teacher Reports:

- **LARA STOUT (Lower grades teacher rep):**
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> grade Kids Marketplace – Trina McCarthy will work to help organize.
    - Patti has information for Trina
  - Will PTO buy a robotic vacuum for 1<sup>st</sup> grade teacher
    - We can't give more money, but you could use your enrichment fund
    - Staples will probably ruin the vacuum very quickly
  - Vacuuming
    - Putting chairs on desks can be a safety hazard and get knocked over
    - Robotic vacuum would not work because the staples would ruin it and the chairs would also be in the way.
    - Use tape to pick up all the garbage.
  - Incentives for being on time to school? Kids are constantly late. What can we do to help with this?
    - when kids are late, they are missing important content.
    - Morning meeting is already at the beginning of the day to give a buffer and kids are still late.
    - REMINDER to leave 5 minutes earlier because of the weather.
  - MATH
    - MATH FLUENCY
      - Teachers' plates are full and they are working to do what is best for the kids.
      - Self-esteem is important and so fluency is good, but it might not look like success to the school as a whole.
      - Math BEE was shot down
    - Math team is generally for higher-level math.
    - Promote IMAGINE MATH
      - Fluency and adaptive math
    - Timestable.com
    - Maybe school-wide math incentives instead
      - like ice cream party
- **LISA NIELSEN (upper grades teacher rep)**
  - Everything is another thing! Teachers are weary. We are losing teachers because of what is expected from the district, state, and the parents.
    - Little extras are what teachers are feeling.
  - ASSEMBLIES
    - Nothing on parent teacher conference week
    - Give NOTICE! Please give notice well in advance. At least a week – but more is even better.
    - HALE Center theater – March 2<sup>nd</sup> for school

- BOOK FAIR:
  - Gel Team can discuss Book Fair and going into the book fair.
  - Optional if they come for the book preview
- Camp Rock at Oquirrh?
- RA RA at OQUIRRH Hills Middle School coming up this month.
- COORDINATE schedules with teachers BETTER! COMMUNICATE!!
- Thank you for the parties!
- 6<sup>th</sup> grade Space Camp was awesome! Simulators for about 1 ½ hours.
  - They have a mission
  - AMAZING!
  - Thank you for mixing DLI and English classes!
- We appreciate you!
  - Thank you for helping with parties, field trips, math team, etc.
  - Kickback is because teachers are TIRED. Trying to upbeat and be positive, but sometimes it feels like one more thing.
  - We have a great PTO that supports us. So thank you!
- New report card coming out next year
  - Standards based
  - Already spending time training to work on this – pressure and a timeline
- THANK YOU TO TEACHERS! You are seen and we appreciate you and are here to support you in the best way. Not to add more.

- **FAN (Chinese Teacher Rep)**

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### **President-elect**

- Jessica Muelleck has agreed to be the president-elect. Vote was unanimous. THANK YOU Jessica for being willing to serve!
  - EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY
- Kiersten Glenn withdrew her name from consideration.

### **Bulletin Board**

- Is this a community bulletin board?
  - No need to put advertisements on our community board
- The district information MUST be displayed.
  - Ok on the wall – but no staple in the wall
- SCC information must be in the vestibule.
- SPLIT the bulletin board
  - SCC
  - PTO
  - SCHOOL Information
    - Can we put that all information must be approved by the office

### **Book Fair**

- English Book fair during Spring Parent Teacher Conferences

- The Book Fair will be set up a day early to give teachers time to shop the fair and do their wish lists –
  - Teacher preview – February 17<sup>th</sup> (after school on Friday)
  - KIDS preview – February 21
  - PTC conference – February 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>
- Book fair money gives us scholastic money
  - Used for teachers
  - Battle of the books library books
  - Battle of the books prizes
- Improve teacher wish lists this year
  - Maybe include gift certificates if the book lists are gone.
- Can we communicate that 50% of what we spend goes back to the school
  - Every dollar you spend, ½ goes back to the school.
- Patti has a “how-to” for Book Fair

### **White Ribbon Week**

- Internet safety
- Computer teacher does a lot of internet safety
  - Protect your mind - hat
  - Protect your identity
  - Protect your footprint -
  - Protect your environment
  - Protect your heart – kind contacts (red shirt)
- Save these ideas for next year.
- We are not going to do WHITE RIBBON WEEK this year

### **Chinese**

- **CNY:** January 13<sup>th</sup> and January 20<sup>th</sup>. We just need parent volunteers. Need 6 parents to run the stations during their grade.
- Help set up decorations on January 12<sup>th</sup> and they will stay up through both celebrations.
- Chinese Book FAIR will begin and be put in the newsletter.

### **Service Project**

- Show you care with socks and underwear
- Start advertising in February
- Patti will have a barrel to put bags of socks and underwear for people to bring to Parent Conferences.
- SUB-for SANTA reactions were AMAZING at Columbia. Thank you to the school for making this possible.
  - Took their breaths away. Gratitude! This took a burden off of a lot of plates!

### **Picnic table update**

- Mr. York will keep working to get this.
- JATC welding – could they do it? The metal tables seemed a little bit too much for the school.
  - Could we help offset for JATC? Maybe we have a former southland student?

### **Valentine Parties**

- Tuesday February 14<sup>th</sup>.
  - One hour – make them small, short, and un-romantic
  - Valentines for everyone
  - Valentine boxes - up to the teacher.
    - buy a pinata (ha ha!). There is a good hack.
- Background checks and no younger siblings

### **PTC Dinners**

- February 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>

### **STEAM Night**

- January 30<sup>th</sup> – 5:30-7:30 open house
- THIS IS A SCHOOL EVENT and PTO is helping support
  - Curriculum night
  - State's requirement to invite English language learning
  - Beverly Taylor Sorenson requirement
  - Mrs. Kou's project for school
  - Goal is 60% of families – about 270 families or 500 children (out of about 450 families)
- PTO in charge of prizes and cookies
- Touch a truck people there?

### **Additional Comments:**

- PTO closet is now available

**Motion to close:** Susan McDougal

**Next Meeting:** THURSDAY, February 2 @ 9:30 A.M.